

PR250/15

## Submission on Draft Southland Energy Strategy

To: Venture Southland

From: Beacon Pathway Incorporated

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Do you believe the proposed vision for Southland's energy future (page 2) is appropriate?

Yes

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No

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*[Comments or suggested amendments. Please explain reason.]*

First sentence is most appropriate

We would encourage Southland to be striving to develop a resilient future energy supply which minimises the impact on our neighbours

Do you have any suggested changes to the proposed strategic actions? (Refer Appendix II)

No

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Yes

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*[Please indicate the number of the specific action to which your comments relate, and what change you would suggest. Please explain reason.]*

### RESIDENTIAL

Venture Southland needs to set specific targets particularly with respect to:

- # of houses insulated under Warm Up NZ programme. This has a limited life - currently through to 2013 - in which case we need annual targets for next two years.
- # of Homestar™ assessments for both new homes, resale of existing and rental housing. (this could start with a polytechnic student project and build from there)
- # of 5 star Greenstar buildings.

The strategy document needs to include how to bring about the desired change in both the residential and business context to achieve improved energy efficiency of buildings.

DEMONSTRATE what can be achieved: Southland needs exemplar buildings to demonstrate for home owners, commercial building owners etc. Venture Southland and Councils need to set the standard with their own premises.

## RESIDENTIAL AND BUSINESS

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Propose a closer alignment of Southland's Energy Strategy with EECA's Statement of Intent, which covers a similar time period. In particular, the EECA Statement of Intent provides insightful strategic context with respect to the role of renewables, and wood in particular, as an energy source for both residential and business. Use of wood, particularly in residential heating in low emission wood burners, reduces demand on reticulated energy sources and builds resilience against impacts of climate change. Southland needs to be partnering with EECA and others to deliver innovative and exemplar projects.

## WATER

p.32 Water Demand Management... Southland could institute a Water Demand Management strategy, building from the experience of other councils, (e.g. Tauranga, Nelson) to conserve valuable water and reduce energy use in treating and pumping water and wastewater.

Which actions do you feel are higher priority? (Refer Appendix II)

*[Please include the number(s) of the specific action(s), and reason why]*

Warm Up NZ is a priority as it currently has a limited life.

Demonstration projects are critical to illustrate what can be achieved.

Are there any actions which you or the organisation you are representing wish to be involved with? (Refer Appendix II)

*[Please include the number(s) of the specific action(s), and reason why]*

Beacon Pathway has, over the past five years, developed a tool kit of resources for local government, industry, community and households designed to overcome the barriers to more sustainable, energy efficient homes and neighbourhoods.

Successful programmes initiated by Beacon include the Auckland Council programme to retrofit homes supported by a targeted rate of \$5,000 per home, which would be an ideal programme to adopt for Southland to utilise the benefit of the Warm Up NZ programme for remaining two years.

Beacon would be keen to support Southland with home and neighbourhood initiatives to conserve / use more wisely our scarce energy and water resources.

Any other comments

Beacon Pathway Inc congratulates Venture Southland in the preparation of the draft Energy Strategy for Southland.

Venture Southland has done a thorough job in developing a comprehensive and robust strategy document, which includes future contribution from solar, other renewables and strategies to mitigate use of fossil fuels upon which the province currently has a high dependence.



14 June 2011

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Signature of submitter  
(or email address if submitted electronically)

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Date

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[name and designation, if applicable]

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